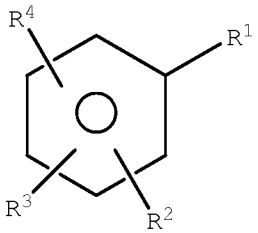
Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) An exoprotein inhibitor for inhibiting the production of exoproteins from Gram positive bacteria in and around the vagina comprising a non-absorbent substrate for insertion into a vagina being selected from the group consisting of a non-absorbent incontinence device, a barrier birth control device, a tampon applicator, and a douche, the non-absorbent substrate having deposited thereon an effective amount of a first active ingredient, and an effective amount of a second active ingredient, the first active ingredient having the general formula:



wherein R^1 is $-OR^6OH$; R^6 is a divalent saturated or unsaturated aliphatic hydrocarbyl moiety; R^2, R^3, and R^4 are independently selected from the group consisting of H, OH, COOH, and $-C(O)R^9$; R^9 is hydrogen or a monovalent saturated or unsaturated aliphatic hydrocarbyl moiety, the second active ingredient having the general formula:

R^{10}——O——R^{11}

wherein R^{10} is a straight or branched alkyl or straight or branched alkenyl having from 8 to about 18 carbon atoms and R^{11} is selected from the group consisting of an alcohol, a polyalkoxylated sulfate salt and a polyalkoxylated sulfosuccinate salt, and wherein the first active ingredient and the second active ingredient are effective in inhibiting the production of exoprotein from Gram positive bacteria.

2. (original) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 1 wherein R^6 is a divalent saturated or unsaturated aliphatic hydrocarbyl moiety having from 1 to about 15 carbon atoms.

3. (original) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 2 wherein R^6 is a divalent saturated or unsaturated aliphatic hydrocarbyl moiety having from 1 to about 10 carbon atoms.

4. (original) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 2 wherein R^6 is a divalent saturated or unsaturated

aliphatic hydrocarbyl moiety having from 1 to about 6 carbon atoms.

5. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 1 wherein R^2 is OH and R^3 is COOH.

6. (original) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 1 wherein the first active ingredient is phenoxyethanol.

7. (currently amended) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 1 wherein the first active ingredient is present in an amount of at least ~~about~~ 0.01 micromoles per gram of non-absorbent substrate.

8. (original) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 1 wherein the first active ingredient is present in an amount from about 0.5 micromoles per gram of non-absorbent substrate to about 100 micromoles per gram of non-absorbent substrate.

9. (original) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 1 wherein the first active ingredient is present in an

amount from about 1.0 micromoles per gram of non-absorbent substrate to about 50 micromoles per gram of non-absorbent substrate.

10. (original) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 1 further comprising a pharmaceutically active material selected from the group consisting of antimicrobials, antioxidants, anti-parasitic agents, antipruritics, astringents, local anaesthetics and anti-inflammatory agents.

11. (canceled).

12. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 11 wherein the C_8-C_{18} fatty acid is linked to a polyalkoxylated sulfate salt.

13. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 11 wherein the C_8-C_{18} fatty acid is linked to a sulfosuccinic salt.

14. (canceled).

15. (Previously presented) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 1 wherein R^{10} is a straight or branched alkyl group.

16. (Previously presented) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 1 wherein R^{10} is a straight or branched alkenyl group.

17. (Previously presented) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 1 wherein R^{10} is obtained from the group consisting of caprylic acid, capric acid, lauric acid, myristic acid, palmitic acid and stearic acid.

18. (Previously presented) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 1 wherein R^{11} is an aliphatic alcohol.

19. (original) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 18 wherein R^{11} is an aliphatic alcohol selected from the group consisting of glycerol, glycol, sucrose, glucose, sorbitol, and sorbitan.

20. (original) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 19 wherein R^{11} is a glycol selected from the group consisting of ethylene glycol, propylene glycol, polypropylene glycol, and combinations thereof.

21. (Previously presented) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 1 wherein the second active ingredient is selected from the group consisting of laureth-3, laureth-4, laureth-5, PPG-5 lauryl ether, 1-0-dodecyl-rac-glycerol, sodium laureth sulfate, potassium laureth sulfate, disodium laureth (3) sulfosuccinate, dipotassium laureth (3) sulfosuccinate and polyethylene oxide (2) sorbitol ether.

22. (Currently Amended) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 1 wherein the second active ingredient is present in an amount of at least ~~about~~ 0.0001 millimoles per gram of non-absorbent substrate.

23. (Previously presented) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 1 wherein the second active ingredient is present in an amount of at least about 0.005 millimoles per gram of non-absorbent substrate.

24. (Previously presented) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 1 wherein the second active ingredient is present in an amount from about 0.005 millimoles per gram of non-absorbent substrate to about 0.2 millimoles per gram of non-absorbent substrate.

25. (Previously presented) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 1 further comprising a pharmaceutically active material selected from the group consisting of antimicrobials, antioxidants, anti-parasitic agents, antipruritics, astringents, local anaesthetics and anti-inflammatory agents.

26. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 1 further comprising an effective amount of a second active ingredient, the second active ingredient comprising an alkyl polyglycoside effective in substantially inhibiting the production of exoprotein from Gram positive bacteria.

27. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 26 wherein the alkyl polyglycoside has an alkyl group having from about 8 to about 18 carbon atoms.

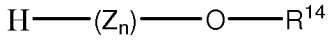
28. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 27 wherein the alkyl group is a linear alkyl group.

29. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 27 wherein the alkyl polyglycoside has an alkyl group having from about 8 to about 14 carbon atoms.

30. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 26 wherein the alkyl polyglycoside has an HLB of 12 to 14.

31. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 26 wherein the alkyl polyglycoside has an HLB of 10 to 15.

32. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 26 wherein the alkyl polyglycoside has the general formula:



wherein Z is a saccharide residue having 5 or 6 carbon atoms, n is a whole number from 1 to 6, and R^{14} is a linear alkyl group having from about 8 to about 18 carbon atoms.

33. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 32 wherein R^{14} is a linear alkyl group having from about 8 to about 14 carbon atoms.

34. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 32 wherein R^{14} is a linear alkyl group having from about 8 to about 12 carbon atoms.

35. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 26 wherein the second active ingredient is present in an amount of at least about 0.0001 millimoles per gram of non-absorbent substrate.

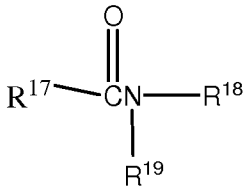
36. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 26 wherein the second active ingredient is present in an amount of at least about 0.005 millimoles per gram of non-absorbent substrate.

37. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 26 wherein the second active ingredient is present in an amount of at least about 0.005 millimoles per gram of non-absorbent substrate to about 2 millimoles per gram of non-absorbent substrate.

38. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 26 wherein the alkyl polyglycoside is selected from the group consisting of Glucopon 220, Glucopon 225, Glucopon 425, Glucopon 600, Glucopon 625, and TL 2141.

39. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 1 further comprising an effective amount of a second active ingredient selected from the group consisting of glycerol monolaurate and myreth-3-myristate wherein said active ingredient is effective in substantially inhibiting the production of exoprotein from Gram positive bacteria.

40. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 1 further comprising an effective amount of a second active ingredient having the general formula:



wherein R^{17}, inclusive of the carbonyl carbon, is an alkyl group having 8 to 18 carbon atoms, and R^{18} and R^{19} are independently selected from hydrogen or an alkyl group having from 1 to about 12 carbon atoms which may or may not be substituted with groups selected from ester groups, ether groups, amine groups, hydroxyl groups, carboxyl groups, carboxyl salts, sulfonate groups, sulfonate salts, and mixtures thereof wherein said second active ingredient is effective in substantially inhibiting the production of exoprotein from Gram positive bacteria.

41. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 40 wherein R^{17} is derived from a saturated or unsaturated fatty acid.

42. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 41 wherein R^{17} is derived from an acid selected from the group consisting of caprylic acid, capric acid, lauric acid, myristic acid, palmitic acid, and stearic acid.

43. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 40 wherein the second active ingredient is selected from the group consisting of sodium lauryl sarcosinate, lauramide monoethanolamide, lauramide diethanolamide, lauramidopropyl dimethylamine, disodium lauramide monoethanolamide sulfosuccinate, and disodium lauroamphodiacetate.

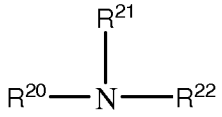
44. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 40 wherein the second active ingredient is present in an amount of at least about 0.0001 millimoles per gram of non-absorbent substrate.

45. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 40 wherein the second active ingredient is present in an amount of at least about 0.0005 millimoles per gram of non-absorbent substrate.

46. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 40 wherein the second active ingredient is present in an amount from about 0.005 millimoles per gram of non-absorbent substrate to about 0.2 millimoles per gram of non-absorbent substrate.

47. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 40 further comprising a pharmaceutically active material selected from the group consisting of antimicrobials, antioxidants, anti-parasitic agents, antipruritics, astringents, local anaesthetics and anti-inflammatory agents.

48. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 1 further comprising an effective amount of a second active ingredient having the general formula:



wherein R^{20} is an alkyl group having from about 8 to about 18 carbon atoms and R^{21} and R^{22} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl groups having from 1 to about 18 carbon atoms and which can have one or more substitutional moieties selected from the group consisting of hydroxyl, carboxyl, carboxyl salts and imidazoline wherein the second active ingredient is effective in substantially inhibiting the production of exoprotein from Gram positive bacteria.

49. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor article as set forth in claim 48 wherein R^{22} comprises a carboxyl salt, the carboxyl salt having a cationic moiety selected from the group consisting of sodium, potassium and combinations thereof.

50. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 48 wherein R^{22} comprises an amine selected from the group consisting of lauramine, lauramino, propionic acid, sodium lauriminodipropionic acid, lauryl hydroxyethyl imidazoline and mixtures thereof.

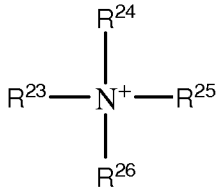
51. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 48 wherein the second active ingredient is present in an amount of at least about 0.0001 millimoles per gram of non-absorbent substrate.

52. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 48 wherein the second active ingredient is present in an amount of at least about 0.005 millimoles per gram of non-absorbent substrate.

53. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 48 wherein the second active ingredient is present in an amount from about 0.005 millimoles per gram of non-absorbent substrate to about 0.2 millimoles per gram of non-absorbent substrate.

54. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 48 further comprising a pharmaceutically active material selected from the group consisting of antimicrobials, antioxidants, anti-parasitic agents, antipruritics, astringents, local anaesthetics and anti-inflammatory agents.

55. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 1 further comprising an effective amount of a second active ingredient having the general formula:



wherein R^{23} is an alkyl group having from 8 to about 18 carbon atoms and R^{24}, R^{25}, and R^{26} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl group having from 1 to about 18 carbon atoms and which can have one or more

substitutional moieties selected from the group consisting of hydroxyl, carboxyl, carboxyl salts, and imidazoline wherein the second active ingredient is effective in substantially inhibiting the production of exoprotein from Gram positive bacteria.

56. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 55 wherein the second active ingredient is triethanolamide laureth sulfate.

57. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 55 wherein the second active ingredient is present in an amount of at least about 0.0001 millimoles per gram of non-absorbent substrate.

58. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 55 wherein the second active ingredient is present in an amount of at least about 0.005 millimoles per gram of non-absorbent substrate.

59. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 55 wherein the second active ingredient is present in an

amount from about 0.005 millimoles per gram of non-absorbent substrate to about 0.2 millimoles per gram of non-absorbent substrate.

60. (withdrawn) The exoprotein inhibitor as set forth in claim 55 further comprising a pharmaceutically active material selected from the group consisting of antimicrobials, antioxidants, anti-parasitic agents, antipruritics, astringents, local anaesthetics and anti-inflammatory agents.